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RUEHAR/AMEMBASSY ACCRA 2330
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 HARARE 000885

SIPDIS

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DRL FOR N. WILETT
ADDIS ABABA FOR USAU
ADDIS ABABA FOR ACSS
STATE PASS TO USAID FOR E. LOKEN AND L. DOBBINS
STATE PASS TO NSC FOR SENIOR AFRICA DIRECTOR B. PITTMAN

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TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [ASEC](#) [PHUM](#) [ZI](#)
SUBJECT: TSVANGIRAI OUTLINES 100 DAY PLAN

Classified By: Ambassador James D. McGee for reason 1.4 (d)

SUMMARY

11. (C) In a September 29 meeting with the Ambassador, MDC leader and prime minister designate Morgan Tsvangirai outlined a plan for the new government's first 100 days in office. Tsvangirai also described plans for outreach to include "listening tours" around the country and summits on health, education, and investment. He would like to travel to Rome to discuss the humanitarian situation with WFP, FAO, and the Pope. To jump-start the new government, Tsvangirai plans to request from donors a continuation of food assistance, basic medicines, and help with water and electricity. Tsvangirai said he expected to finalize the power-sharing agreement with ZANU-PF and Mugabe by the end of the week but would not be pushed into making unwise concessions. END SUMMARY.

The 100-Day Plan

12. (C) Tsvangirai told the Ambassador an MDC strategy group had defined six core areas for the new government to address. These areas are:

- 1) food and humanitarian assistance;
- 2) stabilization;
- 3) freedom and human rights;
- 4) institutional reform;
- 5) basic services; and
- 6) international relations.

Tsvangirai said the MDC will develop detailed plans for each of these areas. There will be 30 and 60 day reviews. He acknowledged that although the MDC has a number of talented people, it lacks technical expertise. He therefore plans to seek technical assistance from the international community.

¶3. (C) Tsvangirai admitted that execution of the plan would require cooperation from Mugabe and ZANU-PF. Therefore, once it is completed, he plans to discuss it personally with Mugabe and enlist his support. He also plans to present it to Parliament.

¶4. (C) To secure cooperation from ZANU-PF, Tsvangirai said he would attempt to work closely with the ministries. He would meet as soon as possible with each ministry and set forth his expectations. He would also hold a retreat with all ministers and subsequently meet with them on a regular basis.

Outreach

¶5. (C) Tsvangirai stated that he planned "listening tours" around the country to talk about his and the MDC's goals and objectives. This would also serve to show donors the MDC was taking concrete steps to move the new government forward.

¶6. (C) Additionally, Tsvangirai said the MDC would conduct summits on health and education to bring together experts to discuss these critical areas and how best to address them. He also wanted to hold a conference for investors to present investment opportunities.

¶7. (C) Finally, Tsvangirai told the Ambassador he would like

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to travel to Rome to discuss the humanitarian situation with the WFP, FAO, and the Pope. (NOTE: According to Tsvangirai, he had applied for a diplomatic passport and been promised its issuance this week. END NOTE.)

Assistance

¶8. (C) To establish his credibility and that of the new government, Tsvangirai argued it would be important to provide food, basic medicines, and water and electricity. He would look to the international community for assistance in these areas.

A Final Agreement?

¶9. (C) Tsvangirai was optimistic that an agreement would be reached this week on outstanding issues, principal of which is the allocation of ministries. He averred he would not be pushed into a disadvantageous deal. If an agreement could not be reached, assistance from Thabo Mbeki, SADC, or the AU would be welcome. Tsvangirai said he had written to Mbeki and thought he could be helpful because of his knowledge of the issues; Mbeki's participation was dependent on his support from the new South African president. Tsvangirai accepted the Ambassador's suggestion that AU and Tanzanian president Kikwete could be an effective mediator.

COMMENT

¶10. (C) Tsvangirai's and the MDC's plans for governance are important, if ambitious. As Tsvangirai admits, the MDC, which has never governed before, lacks technical capacity. At the same time, assuming a final agreement, he may be overly optimistic about his ability to direct the ministries, particularly those with ZANU-PF ministers. Nevertheless, if Tsvangirai is to have a chance, he needs to begin acting like a prime minister and his plans are a step in that direction. END COMMENT.

